

RECEIVED 62-266
EX PARTE OR LATE FILED
MAR 22 1993
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

TO whom this may concern.

I am taking this opportunity to register a complaint against my cable provider, TCI of Indiana Ins. Branch office. They are constantly raising prices especially since Congress decided to regulate the cable industry. I have had 4 price increases between November 1992 and February 1993.

The quality of our signal is poor and not broadcast in stereo. Their signal is received in Stereo but broadcast

distinct manager, Debra Gattlin.
I do not get reasonable explanation
for the increases or the poor
service and poor signal.

The cable company in
Boonville, Indiana is a monopoly
with no competition in sight.
I enjoy cable T.V. and have no
problems paying reasonable rates
and premium service rates. When
one purchases premium service
the signal should also be premium
(Stereo).

My current rates are

Basic Cable Service \$18.25

Expanded Basic \$2.00

Premium Service \$25.50

(HBO, Showtime, Encore)

FRANCHISE FEE 1.92

I would welcome any
assistance you could provide.

Thank you

Richard H. Miller
1308 MacRay Dr.
Brownville, Ind 47601

1. of Copies rec'd

0

ABCODE

**Important
rate information
inside.**

1000 Congress Ave. 1000

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

1993 CABLE TV MONTHLY RATE HIGHLIGHTS

(Effective with your January '93 bill)

Basic Cable \$18.96 an increase of 3.5%.

Expanded Basic will increase to \$2.50.

10 30
10 96
1 36
3

Cable's still a great buy.

Cable television is one of the best entertainment values your money can buy.

As a valued customer, we want to inform you of some changes to your cable service. In 1992, our costs for programming, technology, and general operating expenses have risen more than the increase in the cost of living. In 1993, we are adjusting our rates by the cost of living index, plus cost increases from program suppliers. This will enable us to continue bringing you

As you may know, Congress recently adopted legislation which extends greater regulation over cable television rates. The Federal Communications Commission is expected to adopt rate regulation guidelines and rules by mid-1993. Based on current information, we believe the rate adjustments we are taking are consistent with the provisions of the new law.

We regret we cannot yet answer all your questions on the new legislation until the FCC acts. We are committed to complying with the

Adolph S. Tortoriello
RD #1 Box 727
Lilly, PA 15938

814-736-4644

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

December 10, 1993
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MAR 22 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Specter:

Enclosed is a copy of a rate increase notice from my cable company, TCI of Pennsylvania, Inc. You will note that the rate adjustments are based on the new regulation laws. They didn't waste any time!

Is this what the new cable de-regulation law will do for the consumer? Thanks a lot for nothing! We always lose!

Can't you people in Washington do anything to stop the greedy, grabbing, grabby cable companies? Are their lobbies too rich? If you can't halt their gluttony you should stop passing useless laws which have no effect on these monstrous monopolies.

I would like to know if TCI of PA, Inc. is right in raising the rates, and if not, will the increase be rescinded and our money refunded?

I await your reply.

Sincerely yours
Ad. S. Tortoriello

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Spector,

Sammons Communications, 4601
Smith Street, Hbg, Pa has just
removed Channel 9 out of New Jersey
from our Cable. They have
such a monopoly on the cable
as it is the only one in the area.

11-20-92
phone

WLODARCZYK

Stanley Wlodarczyk

34 Harding Way

Boothwyn, Pa. 19061

Excessive Cable increasing rates

1/1/93!!!

Please do something
about population cable
TV rates.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

jk

EXHIBIT COPIES FILED

Jan. 9, 1992
Walmart, Pa.

SECRET
Senator Arlen Specter
201 Post Office Bldg.
Harrisburg, Pa. 17101
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator,

My plan is stemming the unreasonably greed of cable T.V. operators. My area is serviced by Blue Ridge Cable Television Inc.. For the calendar year of 1992 I paid for a full year in advance a discounted rate of \$186.91. For the 1993 year the advance discounted price is \$232.92, an increase of \$46.01 or more than 24.6%.

I am retired and living on social security plus a meager interest on savings.

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a government will be
and the control of the
sincerely believe
MAR 22 1993
COMMISSION

ARLEN SPECTER
PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE
JUDICIARY
APPROPRIATIONS
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
INTELLIGENCE

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

PLEASE PRINT

DATE 11-5-92

NAME Jimmy Carr

ADDRESS 2644 Brown St

CITY Phila STATE Pa ZIP 19130

PHONE () ORGANIZATION REPRESENTED

COMMENTS Greater Media Cable in

Phila has raised rate two dollars

per month based on ration of adding

EX PARTE OR LATE FILE

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HENRY BRADLEY
SHERRY LAKE APTS.
269 AMHERST HOUSE
CONSHOHOCKEN, PA 19428

RECEIVED

Feb. 6, 1995

MAR 22 1995

Senator Arlen Specter,
Senate Office Bldg.,
Washington DC

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Specter,

My Adelphia Cable Company is increasing my basic cost to over \$22.00 starting next month. Four years ago the cost was \$12 plus.

Two years ago I wrote Representative Coughlin from whom I got a long reply: the gist of which was the Government wanted to get this fledgling industry off the ground.

Cable should be regulated like any other service monopoly. Now they are thumbing their nose at the regulatory bodies by trying to get this additional increase in before it is too late.

Can this increase be stopped?

Sincerely,

Henry Bradley

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Sept. 6, 1993

Dear Sir,

93020671

92-266

I don't know how you monitor
the TV stations, or cable company.
or what is suppose to be basic cable.

Our cable company only has 6
stations on our basic.

The other cable is in the area.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Sen Spector-

I am writing concerning
Cable Company from Bedford raising
our rates again.

It happens the first of every year
when we old Senior Citizens get a
raise in our Social Security it seems
they always have some excuse

I thought there was to be something
done about this

It seems this happens to a lot of things
that we have to have

Well I don't have to have TV so I
can have it unhooked

I ~~read~~^{read} in the paper where this is to
be reported if they raise them too much

I just get so angry sometimes about this

Thank you

Lena P Pepple

500 N Spring St. apt 7

Bedford

DATE

11/30/92

RECEIVED BY

PHONE

MAIL

WALK IN

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

NAME

Bar Kischak

ADDRESS

1/1 Betty Rae, Jr

TELEPHONE

1-2-1-8

DATE 11/27/92

RECEIVED BY CBA

PHONE RECEIVED

WALK IN MAR 22 1993

NAME Mr. Frances House

ADDRESS 56 Daley Avenue TELEPHONE

CITY Baldwin STATE/ZIP CODE 15005

SUBJECT (TCT Encouraging Notes)

Please look into this situation please investigate
this situation.

PRO CON

HARRISBURG SCRANTON ERIE PITTSBURGH PHIL

EX HART OR DATE FILED



Cable Company
of Gloucester

Gloucester Rates
(effective April 1, 1993)

Services:

Broadcast Basic Service	\$13.00
Superstation Tier	\$ 1.00
(Requires Broadcast Basic)	
Advantage Tier	\$ 9.75
(Requires Superstation Tier)	
Age and Income Qualified Senior Discount	\$ 2.00
(Requires Advantage Tier)	
Digital Music Express Audio Service	\$12.00
Additional Outlets	FREE

Premium Services: A La Carte

HBO	\$12.00
The Movie Channel	\$12.00
Prism	\$12.00
Disney	\$ 9.00
Cinemax	\$12.00
Showtime	\$12.00
Encore	\$ 9.00
Discounts on premium service packages are available.	

Converters:

-Addressable Converter	
with Advantage Service only	\$ 5.00
with premium service plus remote	\$ 1.00
<u>2nd set</u>	
without remote	\$ 5.00
with remote	\$ 6.00
-Panasonic Converter	
with Advantage Service only	\$ 3.00
with premium services	\$ 1.00
<u>2nd set</u>	\$ 3.00

Installation Fees:

Additional Outlet Installation	\$30.00
Additional Outlet Reconnection	\$25.00
VCR Hook-Up	\$25.00
Relocate Outlet	\$30.00
Premium Service Hook-up (trip required)	\$25.00
Premium Service Hook-up (in office)	\$ 5.00
Transfer Service to new address	FREE
Digital Music Express Hook-Up	\$25.00
Unnecessary Trip Charge (w/ notification)	\$25.00
Collection Trip Charge	\$25.00
Late Payment Handling Fee	\$ 5.00

3069013001
3069013029 Callee-CS
901001

2-17-93

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
SECRETARY

#901

Mr. James Quello

-2-

February 5, 1993

5. Charging me \$20.00 for placement of a trap to prevent me from getting what I previously received. Unbundling was their decision! Consequently, why do I have to pay for a trap?
6. Considering tier 1 (basic plus) services as a premium service and collecting Pa. sales tax! Does the law allow this, and if so is Pa. really getting this revenue? Note: Channels in this tier were not previously considered premium channels--what has changed?
7. Charging an additional \$.50 a month for copyright fee and \$.58 for franchise fees! Is this appropriate?

I am told Coolbaugh Township charged Blue Ridge for initial installation of their system. So they recover their expenditures (forever?) from their customers. Aren't these really disguised indirect township taxes?! Or perhaps double dipping.

I look forward to an early reply from your committee on these complaints.

Sincerely,



James P. Cahill

Copies to the following for their review/investigation and responses:

~~Arlen Specter~~ - U.S. Senator ✓

600 Arch Street, Room 9400
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Ernie Preate, Jr., Attorney General
Strawberry Square, 16th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Agent R. Miley, Attorney General's Office
Allentown Regional Office
1251 Cedar Crest Blvd.
Allentown, PA.

Field Operations Bureau, FCC
One Oxford Valley Office Blvd.
Room 404
Langhorne, PA 19047

James G. Vones, Sr., Secretary
Coolbaugh Township
5550 Memorial Blvd.
Tobyhanna, PA 18466

LOCAL OFFICE PHONE NO.
717 839-3550

BLUE RIDGE CABLE TELEVISION, INC.

P.O. BOX 316
PALMERTON, PA. 18071

THIS IS YOUR CABLE TV BILL FOR
SERVICES RENDERED. PLEASE INCLUDE
ONE STATEMENT WITH EACH PAYMENT.

MONTHLY DETAIL - THIS IS NOT A BILL

QTY	DESCRIPTION	RATE	TOTAL
1	BROADCAST BASIC INCLUDES	10.00	10.00
	.50 COPYRIGHT FEE		
* 1	TIER ONE	8.00	8.00 *
1	BASIC PLUS	18.90	18.90
1	FRANCHISE FEE		.58
1	PA STATE SALES TAX		.54
TOTAL MONTHLY RATE			20.02

* Cancelled this portion for 1/1/93
but have to pay \$20.02 for placement
of tape. Why?

1100 17.39
+ 2.63 interest
Total (15/0)

ACCOUNT # 3246900

* - DENOTES TAXABLE ITEM

LOCAL OFFICE PHONE NO.
717 839-3550

BLUE RIDGE CABLE TELEVISION, INC.

P.O. BOX 316
PALMERTON, PA. 18071

THIS IS YOUR CABLE TV BILL FOR
SERVICES RENDERED. PLEASE INCLUDE
ONE STATEMENT WITH EACH PAYMENT.

MONTHLY SERVICE DUE FOR FEB	2/01/93	\$18.40
COPYRIGHT FEE		\$.50
FRANCHISE FEE - COOLBAUGH TWP.		\$.58
PA STATE SALES TAX		\$.54
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE ON	2/01/93	***** \$20.02 *****
AT PAXINOS DR		
ARROWHEAD LAKES PA 18347		

PAYMENTS ARE DUE 1ST OF THE MONTH. PAYMENTS NOT RECEIVED
BY THE 30TH WILL BE CHARGED A LATE FEE OF \$1.00.

3246900 21.0Y120492 STR
CAHILL JAMES
9 JACQUELINE DR
WEST CHESTER PA 19382

1103246900029302

400020.02

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

January 4, 1993

Stanley H. Greene
Vice President and General Manager
Suburban Cable TV
3 Moore Rd.
Wallingford, Pa. 19086

Dear Mr. Greene:

I am responding to your November, 1992 letter regarding a rate increase. I am the sole proprietor of my business and I understand that costs of doing business should be passed along to the consumer. I also believe that a company's ability to pass those cost increases along should be done so that the consumer believes that a relative value is received.

Your November letter says that Suburban Cable has provided the following upgrades; expanded channel line-up, enhanced the quality of programming, introduced pay-per-view and increased system reliability. Please allow me to answer each point. Besides the comedy channel, how have you expanded the cable line-up? Can you give me examples of what constitutes 'quality' programming? I don't subscribe to pay per view and if I did I would be charged a monthly fee. So, how has pay-per-view improved my cable life? As far as increasing system reliability, last August I called to ask that the Bravo station be checked for interference. Ask Mr. Joseph DiJulio how the service call went. Today, a number of stations have the same annoying interference. (I am calling Suburban tomorrow.) So how has upgraded fiber optics system improved the service?

The monthly fee is being increased from \$17.50 to \$19.95, an increase of 14% in one year. In 1990, the monthly fee was \$14.95. The two year rate of inflation has been less than 9%. Your fees have increased 33%.

I am very upset that your company is taking advantage of cable re-regulation to announce a rate increase. Your actions are the reason why so many consumers have begged for re-regulation. Yours is a monopoly and I believe that when there is competition in cable broadcasting, your prices will decrease and service will increase. Your company will suddenly discover efficiency.

Sincerely yours,

Andy Szabo
18 Locust Rd.
Morton, Pa. 19070

cc: Senator Arlen Specter
Senator Harris Wofford

Dallas Borough

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

25 Main Street
Dallas, PA 18612

December 17, 1992
(717)675-1389

Mr. Charles J. Hilderbrand
Vice President and General Manager
Tele-Media Corporation
P.O. Box 5301
Pleasant Gap, PA 16823

MILTON LUTSEY
BOROUGH MANAGER
RECEIVED
MAR 22 1993
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Mr. Hilderbrand:

This letter, on behalf of Dallas Borough Council and residents, protests the rate increase announced by Tele-Media of Luzerne County.

Your rate increase in April 1992 was 12 percent, this latest increase represents an 8.5 percent increase, that is a 20% raise in rates in one year. This latest increase shows a complete disregard for the consumer since it reflects a raise in rates faster than either inflation or service improvements.

It is obvious that you are instituting this increase before the Cable Television Consumer Protection Act of 1992 takes effect under federal regulations which was adopted by Congress to protect the consumer.

Under Dallas Borough Ordinance No. 1986-6, Section 3. Non-Exclusive Grant. The right to use and occupy said streets, alleys, public ways and places for the purposes herein set forth shall not be exclusive and the Borough reserves the right to grant a similar use of said streets, alleys, public ways and places to any person at any time during the period of this franchise. Council has advised me to advertise for any other cable companies interested in providing service to Dallas Borough residents.

Sincerely,

Milton Lutsey
Borough Manager

Copies to:

Dallas Borough Council
Kingston & Dallas Townships Supervisors
U.S. Senator Arlen Specter
Honorable Paul Kanjorski, U.S. House of Representatives

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Dennis Gerhart
3325 Stump Hall Road
Collegeville, Pa. 19426
January 14, 1993

Senator Arlen Specter
Room 9400
Wm. Green Fed. Bldg.
Phila, Pa. 19106

RECEIVED

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

JAN

Dear Senator Specter:

Please be advised that I have recently received my monthly bill from CABLE VISION, 237 W. Germantown Pike, Norristown, Pa. 19401. The bill reflected a full \$2.00 per month increase. Rates were raised less than a year ago and now along comes a further increase.

This latest increase is nothing more than an outrageous grab for additional revenue prior to pending congressional rate regulation. The rate I am now paying monthly for basic cable (they call it extended basic) is \$25.93. This rate includes the Remote control unit they foist upon you at the rate of \$3.75. This is another rip-off!

I will be retiring soon and unless basic rates are rolled back, I may find it necessary to hook up my antenna once again. I urge you to incorporate into pending rate reductions, all recent increases that cable companys have enacted.

Sincerely,



DENNIS GERHART

Copy to: CABLE VISION